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PUBLIC HEALTH CONSTRUCTION LAGS

The Board of the Ministry of Public Health USR heard and discussed the fulfillment totals of the plan for capital construction for the first o months of 1949. A report on this subject was submitted by P. Y. Belyayev, director of Capital Construction Administration of the Ministry of Public Health, and a supplementary report by M. I. Bukreyev, director of the "Glavetroyzdrav."

For the period, the indices of construction program fulfillment have been improved considerably in most of the republics. Thus, the Ministry of Public Health Tadzhik SSR has exceeded the plan by 83 percent, Karelo-Finniah SSR by 61 percent, Ukrainian SSR by 27 percent, Belorussian SSR by 19 percent, Estonian SSR by 12 percent, RSFSR by 11 percent, otc.

According to the Ministry of Public Health, however, the over-all plan has not been fulfilled. This is chiefly the farlt of the branch administration of the medical industry and the Main Aministration of Resorts and Sanatoriums. The construction of therapeutic-prophylactic institutions in rural area. is also lagging; for the first 6 months, only 22 percent of the yearly plan has been fulfilled. The Ministries of Public Health of Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Lithuania are furthest behind.

The fundamental reason for this lag in construction is, as before, the slowness in the formulation of technical documentation. This is particularly true of such organs as "Medstekloprom" (Medicinal Glass Industry) and the "Rhimfarmprom" (Chemicopharmaceutical Industry). The deficiencies in the organization of work in construction areas have not been eliminated as yet, no clear graphs have been drawn up to show the introduction of separate projects into exploitation, and labor discipline is low. Socialist competition has been poorly developed; in the construction-assembly administrations of the "Glavstroyzdrav," only 42 ercent of the workers are in competition. The quality of construction work could be improved.

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Administrations of Ministries, and directors of a number of public health departments have clearly underestimated the importance of rural construction and capital repairs. On the other hand, the experiments of the Bryansk, Chernigov, Kiev, and other oblasts have shown the success that may be attained if the initiative is taken in developing the construction and repair of medical institutions by the "people's construction method."

The Board charged the Ministries of Public Health of republics in which the six-month plan was not fulfilled to check the progress of each unit, set up graphs for exploitation, and fulfill the yearly program.

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